



STUDENT ASSESSMENT NEWS

June 6, 2016

[Archived Assessment News](#)

CTStudentAssessment@ct.gov

860-713-6860

Smarter Balanced Assessment Updates

Use the quick links below to access articles or sections included in this newsletter.

[Smarter Balanced Assessment Updates](#)

- [The Smarter Balanced Test Window Closes Friday, June 10, 2016](#)

- [Checking Student Completion Rates Using the TIDE Online Reporting System](#)

[The Connecticut Alternate Assessment \(CTAA\)](#)

- [The Connecticut Alternate Assessment Window Closes Friday, June 10, 2016](#)

[Smarter Balanced Test Information Distribution Engine and Public School Information System \(PSIS\)](#)

- [TIDE-Related Assessments](#)

[Smarter Balanced Interim Assessments and Digital Library Update](#)

[Register for e-mail updates](#)

The Smarter Balanced Assessment Window Closes Friday, June 10, 2016

Considerations about testing students as the test window closes:

- All Grade 3 – 8 students listed in the Test Information Distribution Engine (TIDE) should **complete Smarter Balanced testing by Friday, June 10, 2016.**
- The mathematics assessment is comprised of two subtests, a computer adaptive test (CAT) and a performance task (PT). The English language arts (ELA) assessment includes a CAT only. Students must log in to each subtest to count as a participant for a content area.
- Students must complete at least one item on each test (ELA CAT or Math CAT and PT) for a score to be generated in the content area.
- Access the Online Reporting System (ORS) in TIDE to monitor test completion.
- Districts should submit appeals by **12:00 p.m.** on Thursday, June 9, 2016. All appeals entered by **12:00 p.m.** on Thursday will be processed by 3 p.m. that day.

Checking Student Completion Rates Using the TIDE Online Reporting System

District Test Coordinators should use the TIDE Online Reporting System ([ORS](#)) to verify that students have completed the three components of the Smarter Balanced summative assessments (Math CAT, Math PT, and ELA CAT). To generate participation reports, log in to the TIDE ORS and click on the “Plan and Manage Testing” button. It is possible to generate reports to show whether or not students have started testing, to list students whose tests will expire before the

STUDENT ASSESSMENT NEWS

June 6, 2016

Smarter Balanced Assessment Update, Continued

window closes, and to check all students who have submitted completed tests. This information is available by test, by grade, or by the three components referenced in this section.

The Connecticut Alternate Assessment (CTAA)

The Connecticut Alternate Assessment Window Closes Friday, June 10, 2016

Please refer to the CTAA resources such as the [CTAA System User Guide](#) and the [CTAA Test Administration Manual](#) to ensure tests are accessed and completed by June 10 and that all secure materials are managed appropriately. You may access these materials on the [Connecticut Alternate Assessment portal](#) or by accessing <http://ct.portal.airast.org/resources/?section=alternate-assessment>.

Smarter Balanced Test Information Distribution Engine and Public School Information System

TIDE–Related Assessments

District Test Coordinators need to work with their District PSIS Coordinators to ensure that each **student's status at the time of testing** is accurately being reported in the PSIS **Registration Module**, and subsequently in TIDE. All PSIS Coordinators should make all changes to student enrollment and demographic information directly in the PSIS **Registration Module**.

In addition to *EL*, *Special Education*, and *Free/Reduced Lunch Eligible*; districts should now enter the status of students who qualify for *Section 504* and *Recently Arrived EL* in the PSIS **Registration Module**.

Please ensure that the **student's status at the time of testing** is accurately reflected in PSIS. Accurate reporting in PSIS will result in accurate reporting in TIDE. Updated PSIS information will then be reflected in TIDE for all of the following assessments.

- Smarter Balanced
- Connecticut Alternate Assessments (CTAA)
- CMT/CAPT Science
- CMT/CAPT Skills Checklist Science

Student demographic values will be saved and the fields locked in PSIS on June 10, 2016.

STUDENT ASSESSMENT NEWS

June 6, 2016

Smarter Balanced Interim Assessments and Digital Library Update

The Smarter Balanced Interim Assessments and Digital Library will be made available to school districts during the 2016-17 school year. Enhancements to the 2016-17 Interim Assessments for mathematics and ELA include:

- more IABs to measure a greater breadth of content
- revised IABs to measure the content with more specificity
- more unique items across the Interim Comprehensive Assessments (ICAs) and Interim Assessment Blocks (IABs)

The IAB blueprints for the 2016–17 mathematics and ELA IABs are now available for download from the Smarter Balanced website. The blueprints provide information on the claims and targets assessed within each block, the types of items, and the Depth of Knowledge for the items. Please review the following Smarter Balanced resources: [Interim Assessments Overview](#), [ELA IAB Blueprint](#), and [Math IAB Blueprint](#).

Register for email updates

To automatically receive the *Student Assessment News* and/or other announcements, [register for e-mail updates](#) on the Comprehensive Assessment Program Portal.

The Connecticut State Department of Education is committed to a policy of equal opportunity/affirmative action for all qualified persons. The Connecticut State Department of Education does not discriminate in any employment practice, education program, or educational activity on the basis of **race, color, religious creed, sex, age, national origin, ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability (including, but not limited to, intellectual disability, past or present history of mental disorder, physical disability or learning disability), genetic information, or any other basis prohibited by Connecticut state and/or federal nondiscrimination laws. The Connecticut State Department of Education does not unlawfully discriminate in employment and licensing against qualified persons with a prior criminal conviction.** Inquiries regarding the Connecticut State Department of Education's nondiscrimination policies should be directed to:

Levy Gillespie
Equal Employment Opportunity Director/Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator
Connecticut State Department of Education
25 Industrial Park Road
Middletown, CT 06457
860-807-2071
levy.gillespie@ct.gov

CTAA

Connecticut Alternate Assessment

Smarter
Balanced
Assessment Consortium

CMT/CAPT
SCIENCE

SAT[®]